

At a meeting of the EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE, SUNDERLAND on MONDAY, 23rd JUNE, 2014 at 5.30p.m.

Present:-

Councillor Ball in the Chair

Councillors M. Dixon, Emerson, Errington, Forbes, E. Gibson, Kay, Marshall, T. Martin, Mordey, Scanlan and Wood.

Also Present:-

Hazel Clark	- East Area VCS Network Representative
Alan Duffy	- Head of Operations, Gentoo
Mick Hall	- Neighbourhood Inspector, Northumbria Police
Paula Hunt	- East Area VCS Network Representative
Michelle Irving	- Solicitor, Sunderland City Council
Matthew Jackson	- Governance Services Officer, Sunderland City Council
Victoria Patterson	- Customer Relationship Officer, Sunderland City Council
Sarah Reed	- Assistant Chief Executive and Area Lead Executive, Sunderland City Council
Gillian Robinson	- Area Co-ordinator, Sunderland City Council
Nicky Rowland	- Area Response Manager, Sunderland City Council
Jamie Southwell	- Neighbourhood Inspector, Northumbria Police
Nicol Trueman	- Area Community Officer, Sunderland City Council

Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received on behalf of Councillors Farr, McClennan and Price along with Nonnie Crawford, Joe Cummings and Jen McKevitt.

Declarations of Interest

Area Budgets Report

Councillors Marshall and Errington declared that they were Council Appointed members of the Box Youth Project.

Councillor T. Martin declared that he was a member of the Hendon Young People's Project.

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Committee held on 7th April, 2014

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th January 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

VCS Area Network Progress Report

Paula Hunt informed the Committee of the work that had been done by the VCS Network since the last meeting of the Area Committee. She advised that the VCS Network had taken part in the People and Place workshops and that there had been 38 groups had fed information into the workshops. The VCS network had also been given a presentation from the CCG and the organisations would be looking at ways to work together and access funding.

Ms Hunt also advised that she would be standing down as Chair of the network.

Councillor T. Martin thanked Ms Hunt for all of her hard work over the years.

2. RESOLVED that the VCS Network progress report be noted.

Northumbria Police Update

Inspector Mick Hall presented the update on crime figures relating to the Millfield and City Centre area. He advised that all crime had increased by 35 crimes compared with the same period last year; the majority of these crimes had been shoplifting offences and a lot of these shoplifters were first time offenders who were dealt with by using community resolutions rather than by prosecuting them. A lot of the first time offenders were elderly people and parents who were struggling financially.

Violence against the person had increased by 15 offences; there had been a lot of work to ensure that measures were in place to tackle domestic violence during the world cup. Work was being done in conjunction with Wearside Women in Need and there were officers with body cameras to ensure that evidence was captured to enable prosecutions to take place even if the victim did not wish to make a complaint against the attacker.

Burglaries of dwellings had reduced by 13 percent and burglaries of properties other than dwellings had reduced by 12 percent.

Robberies had reduced by 32 percent. There had been a 24 percent reduction in vehicle crimes.

Antisocial behaviour had been a problem across the whole force area and within this area there had been a 30 percent increase, a total of 170 additional incidents over last year. People were encouraged to report any incidents of antisocial behaviour.

He also advised that the concerts at the Stadium of Light had taken place without any issues; there had been 3 arrests at the 1 Direction concert and 2 arrests at North East Live. The Split Festival was due to be taking place soon and the event plan was still being worked on to ensure that the event would take place without any problems.

Councillor Wood asked whether the shoplifting was occurring only within the city centre or whether it was a problem across the area. Inspector Hall advised that there was a lot of enforcement against shoplifters within the city centre and as such the problem moved outside of the city centre; there had been a number of offences on Hylton Road and also at the convenience stores attached to petrol stations.

Councillor Forbes commented that there had been problems at Asda in Grangetown with shoplifting teams targeting the store. Inspector Hall stated that most offences had been committed by first time offenders; the police were aware of the travelling gangs and they had intelligence on these gangs.

Councillor Scanlan asked whether the police were finding more people coming into the country to steal. Inspector Hall stated that it was thought that people were being brought into the country to steal; when immigrants were arrested the immigration service were contacted to ensure that checks could be carried out to ensure that any illegal immigrants were removed from the country.

Inspector Jamie Southwell then presented the figures for the East Area. He advised that there had been reductions in all types of crime and the total number of crimes had reduced by 16 percent. There had been 72 fewer offences committed within the last month.

Violent crime resulting in injury had reduced by 53 percent.

Acquisition crime had also reduced with thefts from motor vehicles reducing by 42 percent; burglaries reducing by 23 percent and shoplifting reducing by 22 percent.

There had been an increase in the amount of youth antisocial behaviour with 13 percent more reported incidents.

Inspector Southwell also advised that the dates of the PACT meetings were now available online.

Councillor Emerson thanked Inspector Southwell for ensuring that the details of the PACT meetings were online.

3. RESOLVED that the update from Northumbria Police be noted.

Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service Update

The Chairman advised that there was no update from Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service as Joe Cummings was not in attendance. Mr Cummings was due to be retiring next month and as such she wished him well for the future.

Dog Control Orders – Consultation Results and Findings

Responsive Local Services submitted a report and powerpoint presentation (copies circulated) to update and advise the Committee of the results of the public consultation relating to Sunderland City Council's intention to implement legislation, subject to Part 6, Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, Dog Control Orders and to seek approval to implement the orders detailed within Appendix 1 of the report.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Nicky Rowland and Councillor Mordey introduced the report and presentation and welcomed any questions from Members.

Councillor T. Martin queried whether there was any requirement for dogs to be on a lead on the Town Moor and also asked who had the power to direct dog walkers to put their pet on a lead. Ms Rowland advised that Police and Council Responsive Local Services staff had the power to direct dog walkers to place the dog on a lead.

Councillor Forbes asked that Backhouse Park not be covered completely by the dog control orders. Ms Rowland advised that dogs would not be allowed in the play areas but there would be no restrictions elsewhere in the park.

Councillor Forbes then queried whether there were sufficient resources to ensure that the orders could be enforced. Ms Rowland stated that there were a significant number of staff able to enforce the orders; the main aim was to reduce fouling and as well of using enforcement education would be necessary.

Councillor Mordey stated that enforcement had been raised by all of the Area Committees and would be looked at in more depth. He also stated that a significant amount of fouling was from dogs that were out on the streets without their owner.

4. RESOLVED that the report be noted and the recommendations for the implementation of the orders be approved.

Place Board Progress Report

The Chair of the Place Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought Area Committee's approval of the priorities to be taken forward as part of the work plan for 2014/15 and provided an update on the Place Board governance arrangements for 2014/15.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

The Chair of the Place Board, Councillor Scanlan, introduced the report and advised the Committee of the work the board had carried out over the last 2 years. The gateway 1 and 2 projects were well underway and had made a huge difference to the area. It was proposed to look at a gateway 3 project for the coming year to look at improvements to more shops in the area; members of the public could identify with the work being done as part of the gateway projects as they could see actual improvements taking place. She asked the committee to agree the Membership of the board as set out in paragraph 4.3 and also asked Members to agree the governance arrangements and work plan for the board for 2014/15.

The proposed priorities for the coming year had been identified and these were set out at paragraph 3.1 of the report.

There had been £20,000 of funding provided by the CCG and £20,000 from Public Health; the Area Committee were recommended to match this funding; the funding would be used to deliver initiatives to encourage use of greenspace.

Councillor T. Martin commented that since the bowling club had moved out of Barley Mow Park the bowling greens had been neglected and were in an unplayable condition. He felt that one of the greens needed to be kept for casual use and suggested that the other could be used for young people to play football. Ms Rowland advised that bowling greens were very expensive to maintain and one of the greens would be kept at the park; there were no intentions to use the other for football as there was already a MUGA within Barley Mow Park and there was a set of goal posts in Backhouse Park.

5. RESOLVED that:-

- a. The East Sunderland Area Place Board work plan for 2014/15 as set out in Section 3 and Annex 1 be approved
- b. The area governance arrangements set out in Section 4 and Annex 2 be approved.

People Board Progress Report

The Chairman of the People Board submitted a report (copy circulated) which sought area committee approval of the priorities to be taken forward as part of the work plan for 2014/15 and which provided an update on the area governance arrangements for 2014/15.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Councillor Emerson introduced the report and advised the Committee of the proposed work plan for 2014/15 which was detailed in section 3 of the report and at Annex 1. He asked Members to agree the work plan.

Councillor Emerson also asked members to consider and agree the governance arrangements and Membership set out in section 4 of the report. There was a vacancy on the board for a representative of Hendon ward.

Councillor Mordey put himself forward to represent Hendon Ward on the People Board; Councillor T. Martin expressed his support for Councillor Mordey to be appointed to the board.

Councillor Emerson also asked the Committee to give consideration to the appointment of a representative to the East area LMAPS group. Councillor T. Martin was nominated to represent the area on the LMAPS group.

6. RESOLVED that:-

- a. The East Sunderland Area People Board Work Plan priorities for 2014/15 as set out in Section 3 and Annex 1 be approved
- b. The area governance arrangements for 2014/15 outlined in Section 4 and Annex 2 be agreed
- c. In addition to the Membership set out in paragraph 4.3 Councillor Mordey be appointed to the board as the representative for Hendon Ward
- d. Councillor T. Martin be appointed to the LMAPS group for the East Area.

Area Budgets Report

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with the financial statement which detailed the current position on progress in relation to allocations of SIB and Community Chest funding and which sought Members approval of proposals for funding.

(For copy report – see original minutes)

Ms Trueman introduced the report and advised the Committee of the proposals for funding which Members were asked to approve. There was a request to approve £40,000 of SIB funding to allow the area boards to develop their priorities without having to come back to the Committee to

request funding; this was detailed in Annex 1. There was also a request to approve funding of £86,903 to the reducing NEETs priority.

Ms Trueman also advised the Committee of the financial statements and the previously approved Community Chest applications which Members were asked to note.

7. RESOLVED that:-

- a. The financial statements set out in sections 2.1 and 3.1 be noted
- b. The 5 SIB funding requests totalling £126,903, as set out in section 2 and annex 1 be approved
- c. The 19 Community Chest approvals set out on Annex 2 be noted.

Planning Applications – For Information Only

Current Planning Applications relating to the East Sunderland Area for the period 1st May to 31st May 2014 were submitted for Members information only (copy circulated).

(For copy report – see original minutes)

8. RESOLVED that the report be received and noted.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the Meeting.

(Signed) E. BALL,
Chairman.